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REMARKS

Applicant is grateful to the Examiner stating that pending claims 4-11, 13, 15, 18, 19, and 23-40 were found to disclose allowable subject matter and that pending claims 45 and 46 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The claims have been amended to better clarify the present invention to overcome the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), and 103(a). No new subject matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Reconsideration of the rejections of claims 1, 2, 12, 14, 16, 17, and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Peguy (US Pat. 5,322,792) is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

Re claim 1: Independent claim 1 of the present invention has been amended to include the feature of pending claim 4, namely: "said container including longitudinal ribs extending inwardly from said sidewall" which has been found to be allowable subject-matter by the Examiner. Indeed, none of the cited prior art documents, including Peguy's patent, discloses or even suggest the idea of having a container with longitudinal ribs extending inwardly from the sidewall. (Emphasis added)

Accordingly, it is respectfully believed that the present invention as described in amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Peguy's machine or any other cited prior art document, or even rendered obvious in view thereof as not being suggested thereby. (Emphasis added)

Re claims 2, 12, 14, 16, 17, and 20-23: Amended dependent claims 2, 12, 14, 16, 17, and 20-23 are respectfully believed to patentably distinguish the Ser. No: 10/617,858

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invention over the prior art cited by the Examiner for the similar reasons set out above with respect to claim 1 since they depend thereon.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Reconsideration of the rejections of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peguy (US Pat. 5,322,792) is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

Re claim 3: Amended dependent claim 3 is respectfully believed to patentably distinguish the invention over the prior art cited by the Examiner for the similar reasons set out above with respect to claim 1 since it depends thereon.

Claims 1-3 and 5-46 should be found, as now amended, clearly allowable over the art cited by the Examiner.

Based on the above, it is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance and a favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encl. Petition for Extension of Time (1 month) with fee payment authorization form (2 pages).

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